Statement

The steps taken by the Government to control pollution in the Capital include the following:—

I. *Air Pollution*:

(1) The entire union territory of Delhi has been declared as air pollution control area.

(2) Ambient air quality and emission standards have been evolved.

(3) Ambient air quality is being monitored regularly at six stations. Two automatic air monitoring stations have also been installed.

(4) The air polluting industries have been asked to take pollution control measures through consent order issued through the Central Pollution Control Board on a time-bound basis. Legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(5) Indraprastha Power House has installed high efficient electrostatic precipitators and is now meeting the emission standards. Rajghat Power House has been closed. Badarpur Thermal Power Plant is in the process of installation of high efficiency electrostatic precipitators.

(6) Delhi Administration has been requested to amend the Motor Vehicle Rules and notify the standards for vehicular pollution to control air pollution from vehicles.

(7) Delhi Administration has started an Awareness campaign against pollution from exhaust from vehicles.

II. *Water Pollution*:

1. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has taken up various schemes for improvement of sewerage and drainage facility including treatment of sewage.

2. A time-bound scheme to augment the capacity of the existing sewage treatment plant has been taken up.

3. Scheme for setting up of common effluent treatment plants in selected industrial areas to control pollution from small scale industries has been taken up.

4. Specific pollution control measures to check outgoing effluent from thermal power plants have been taken up.

5. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi proposes to go in for low-cost sanitation in a few authorized|regularised colonies for the disposal of domestic sewage.

6. Effluent standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

7. Industries have been directed to comply with the prescribed standards on a time-bound basis. Legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

Enactment of a New act to protect forests

1109. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "New Act to protect forests" which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 17th April 1989;

(b) whether Government propose to enact a new Act to protect forests in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The heading of the news item does not relate to the text which is a summary of the Annual report of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 1988-89. There is no mention in the main text of any new Act to be enacted by the Government. However, the Government is considering to amend the Indian Forests Act, 1927 to make it more comprehensive.